FALLEN SYNDICATE

ROLAN THE FORGOTTEN KING

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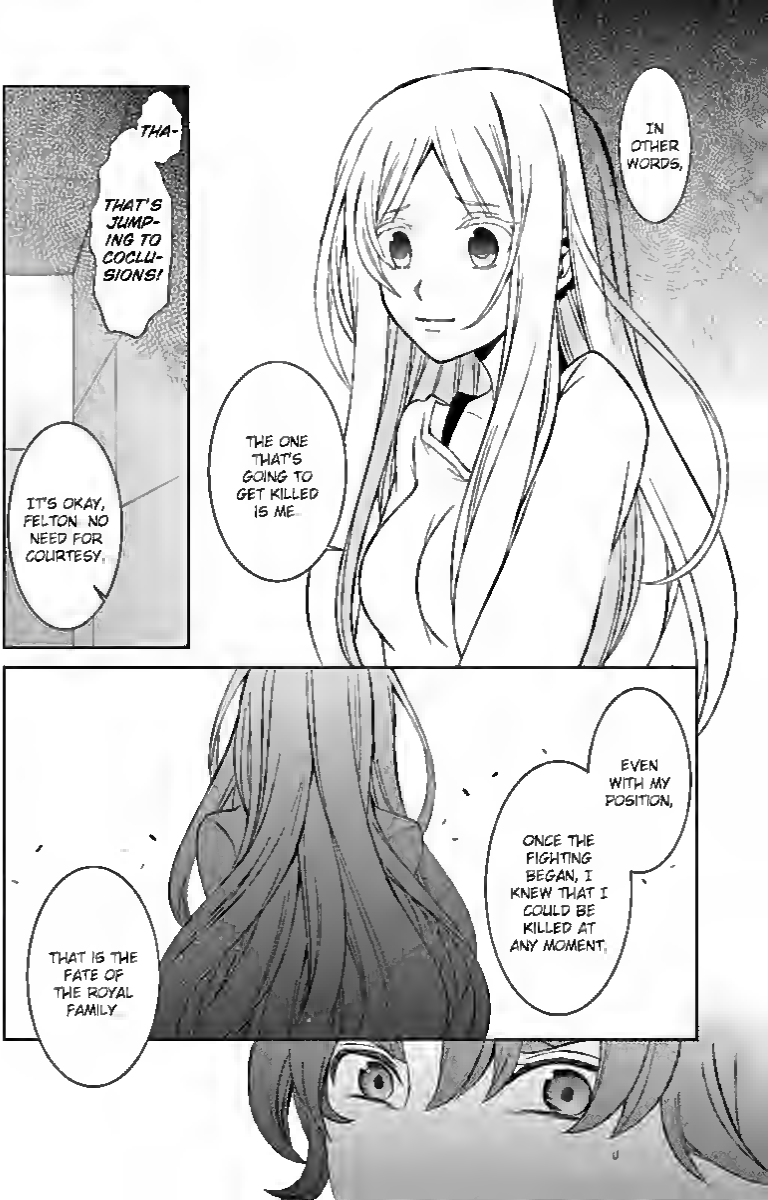
SFK THWACK
THE AVERAGE AGE OF THIS PARTY OF DEMONS!
PLEASE LOOK AT THIS FRIGHTENING REALITY, COMMANDER!
ROLAN 21 YEARS OLD (SELF-PROCLAIMED)
PRESUMED [redacted] YEARS
MADE 3000 YEARS AGO DURING THE AGE OF EXILE
EVEN WITH THAT YOU'RE JUST A SECOND RATE RESERVE SOLDIER WHO CAME WITH A HORSE CARRIAGE EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO WATCH OVER THE CASTLE.
YOU'RE PULLING THAT JOKE AGAIN!
BOY.
PLEASE LET ME JOIN THE PARTY FOR THE SAKE OF LOWERING THAT AVERAGE!
IT'S BETTER BEING 21. PAY IT NO MIND.
You haven't changed in 10 years. It doesn't add up.
BY THE WAY, HOW OLD ARE YOU EXACTLY COMMANDER?

ROLAN IS 21; TEN YEARS AGO HE TURNED 11.

CHAPTER 20: "QUALIFICATION"

IT SEEMS MY PUNISHMENT HAS BEEN DECIDED.
WELL
FOR ME, IT'S JUST A TRANSFER TO THE ARMY RESERVE.
WHAT HAP-PENED WITH THAT?
IT'S NOT DEATH IS IT?!
SFX NOD
YOU'RE AN EXCEP-TION-ALLY CRUEL QUEEN ...
SPEAK-ING OF WHICH,
EARLIER YOU SAID "FOR ME", RIGHT?
OH. I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE SOME-THING HARSHER!
WAIT A MINUTE THAT IS HARSH
IT'S THE SAME AS BEING TOLD BY THE ACTING MAJOR GENERAL YESTERDAY THAT THEY DON'T NEED ME ANYMORE


IN OTHER WORDS,
THE ONE THAT'S GOING TO GET KILLED IS ME.
EVEN WITH MY POSITION,
ONCE THE FIGHTING BEGAN, I KNEW THAT I COULD BE KILLED AT ANY MOMENT.
THAT IS THE FATE OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.
IT'S OKAY, FELTON. NO NEED FOR COURTESY.
THA-
THAT'S JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS!

AA-AA-AR-GH!!
DAMN IT!
RATTLE
Riku
I'M ALSO A FAILURE AS A MAN.
MAJOR GENE-RAL FELTON, PLEASE TELL ME TWO THINGS!
YOUR LATE MOTHER TOLD ME THE SAME THING.
"YOU DON'T NEED TO BE CONSIDERATE."
FIRST, WHEN WILL I BE KILLED?
SECOND, DOES ROLAN KNOW ABOUT IT?
NO... SOME-ONE OF MY POSI-TION...

YOU ARE GOING TO BE EXECUTED IN PIONIA.
TEN DAYS FROM NOW.
THE ANNOUNCE-MENT HAS REACHED THE EMPIRE'S SIDE SO ROLAN MOST LIKELY KNOWS BY NOW.
ALRIGHT. I'M ALREADY ON THE VERGE OF BEING FIRED.
I'M ABOUT TO LEAK MILITARY INTELLI-GENCE, MORE OR LESS.
RIGHT...
SO ROLAN CAN'T MAKE IT HERE IN TIME.
HE'S THAT KIND OF PERSON.
THAT'S WHY I'M WORRIED.
AMENTI IS A MAN WHO CHOOSES THE WORST MEANS TO GET WHAT HE WANTS.

THERE HAS TO BE SOME WAY...
IS THERE ANOTHER WAY BESIDES ESCAPING FROM HERE?
IS THERE NO OTHER WAY?
THAT'S RIGHT
BEFORE MY EXECUTION, I CAN COMMIT SUICIDE. THAT'S THE ANSWER.
MAYBE ROLAN WILL FINALLY GIVE UP...
I DON'T WANT ROLAN TO DIE.

ETI-
OLE
DUC-
LAU-
VEN!
WHAT
ARE
YOU
THINK-
ING!?
EI... DID I SAY THAT OUT LOUD?
IF I WERE ROLAN,
I WOULDN'T WANT YOUR HEAD TO ROLL.
ISN'T HE THAT KIND OF GUY?
I WOULD SAVE YOU BEFORE THAT

DO YOU THINK HE'LL FORGET ABOUT YOU IF YOU'RE DEAD?
HE'S NOT THAT TYPE OF MAN, IS HE?
BUT...
BUT...
THERE IS NO OTHER WAY!
IF ROLAN DOES SOME-THING FOR MY SAKE...

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
EVEN WHEN IMPRIS-ONED, SHE STILL HELD HER COMPO-SURE
BUT BEFORE BEING QUEEN, SHE WAS JUST AN UNDER-AGED GIRL.
MY QUEEN
SHE MUST HAVE HELD IT IN...

DON'T YOU WANT TO WASH YOUR BODY BEFORE YOU DIE?
IT'S IMPORT-ANT
DO YOU WANT TO TAKE A BATH?
I'M SERIOUS, PRINCESS.
THAT'S TRUE
PROBA-BLY... PROBA-BLY...
OF COURSE IT WOULD BE THE BATH RESERVED FOR OFFICERS INSIDE PIONIA. BUT EVEN WITH THAT,
THERE'S NO GUAR-ANTEE THAT SOMETHING BAD WON'T HAPPEN.
EVEN IF IN THE RESERVE, A MAJOR GENERAL IS STILL A MAJOR GENERAL.
EVEN IF THE COMMANDER SCOLDS ME. IF IT'S FOR THIS...
IF BY ANY CHANCE SHOULD THE OPPORTUNITY ARISE THAT THE POWS ARE PERMIT-TED TO TAKE A BATH,

IT WON'T BE TOO LATE TO DIE AFTERWARDS, AS WELL.
UNTIL THEN, ACT NORMAL.
I JUST GAVE UP ON ALL MY COURTESY TOWARDS THE COMMANDER.

ETIOLE'S POSITION WAS CONFIRMED FROM THE MILITARY INTELLI-GENCE
IF THE UNDER-GROUND FACILITY PIONIA IS ALSO LEFT TO JACK, PROBABLY AT SOME POINT ITS LOCATION WILL BE DISCOVERED, TOO...
THE TRAIN'S JOURNEY WAS GOING EXCEP-TIONALLY WELL
EXCUSE ME I DON'T MEAN TO INTRUDE...
IF YOU DON'T MIND,
MAY I JOIN YOU?

SFX: SHUP!
NO.
IMPOSS-
IBLE.
WELL,
TA
TA
TA
HMPH
HOW MANY HAVE THERE BEEN?
THOSE ARE YOUR TRUE COLORS

AH?
I SCREWED UP
WELL
DON'T GET SO WORKED UP, RENA
AFTER ALL, I'M BEING PROMOTED TO DEMON KING.
I'M ENJOYING LEARNING UNDER THAT SHION
RIGHT?
YOU SHOULD ENJOY THIS TRIP AS WELL
WE'RE ON A TRAIN, AFTER ALL.
ゴトン
SFX: TRAIN SOUNDS

Y-
YEAH?
LIM,
ROLAN-SAMA
SFX: RIKU
SFX: SU
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

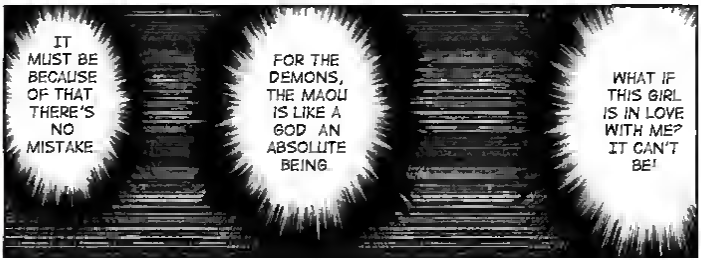
E-
EMBRACE ME!
PLE-
Blush
PLEASE EXCUSE ME!
THAT

HE TOLD YOU TO LEARN FROM SHION-SAMA EARLIER, SO...
UHM...
I THOUGHT I SHOULD FINALLY LEARN...
UHM...
AH, I SEE.
THAT'S RIGHT... THAT'S WHAT...
I SAID.

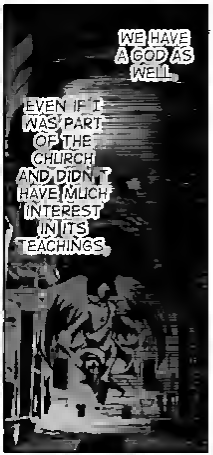
WELL, THAT'S OKAY. THERE'S NOTHING WRONG
I CAN AT LEAST WELCOME YOU.

I-
CAN DIE NOW.
HaP
PON

HER LEVEL OF ADMIRATION TOWARDS THE MAOU IS AT THE LEVEL OF A WORSHIPPER OF SOME CULT
CRAP~


IT MUST BE BECAUSE OF THAT THERE'S NO MISTAKE
FOR THE DEMONS, THE MAOU IS LIKE A GOD AN ABSOLUTE BEING
WHAT IF THIS GIRL IS IN LOVE WITH ME? IT CAN'T BE!

SURELY, HIS NAME WAS...!
flash


WE HAVE A GOD AS WELL.
EVEN IF I WAS PART OF THE CHURCH AND DIDN'T HAVE MUCH INTEREST IN ITS TEACHINGS.

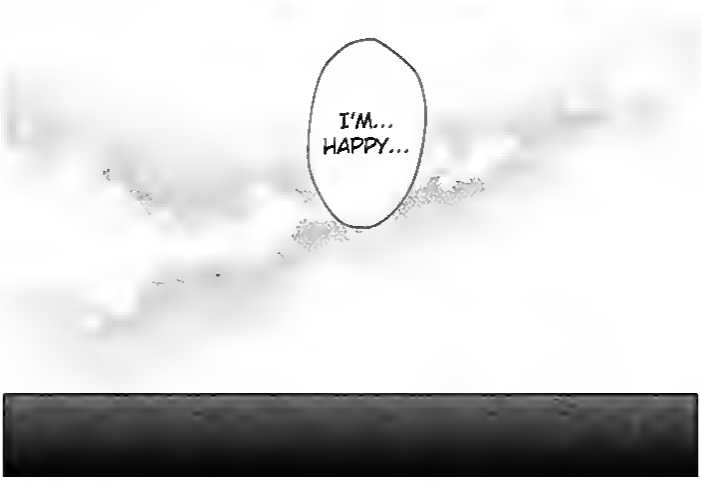
AND IN THE EYES OF THE DEMON, I'M NOT ROLAN, BUT THE MAOU.
NOW THAT YOU MEN-TION IT. .

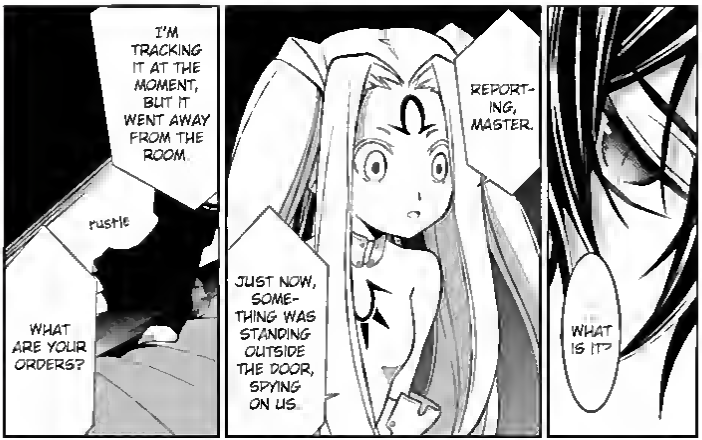
NIKE!!
!!
WELL, WELL, WELL...
ROLAN-SAMA.
DID THIS GUY COME TO EAT AS WELL? THIS IS BAD.
THIS SIBLING RELA-TIONSHIP IS GOOD
*IMAGINATION
IF SOMEONE GETS CLOSE TO THE PRINCESS...
EVEN IF THEY'RE MY OWN MEN, I'LL KILL THEM.
H-HEY
DON'T MISUN-DERSTAND THIS.
THIS IS WHAT RENA HOPED FOR.
... RIGHT?
BUT IT ISN'T LIKE THAT,
RIGHT?!

PLEASE DON'T WORRY ROLAN-SAMA.
スッ
I'M NOT SOME LITTLE BOY WHO'S JEALOUS OF HIS SISTER.
HM? JEALOUS?
IT'S JUST ...
SAYING IT IS NOT ENOUGH

SFX: PASS BY

PLEASE MAKE MY SISTER HAPPY.
OUR OMNI-POTENT ONE.


I'M...
HAPPY...


REPORTING, MASTER.
WHAT IS IT?
JUST NOW, SOMETHING WAS STANDING OUTSIDE THE DOOR, SPYING ON US.
I'M TRACKING IT AT THE MOMENT, BUT IT WENT AWAY FROM THE ROOM.
rustle
WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?

RO-LAN-SAMA,
SHALL I TAKE A LOOK?
DON'T YOU EVER SLEEP?
ACT-UALLY
DEMONS DON'T NEED TO SLEEP MUCH
OPENS
I'M SURE YOU'VE NOTICED IT, BUT THAT STRANGE MAN
I'VE BEEN SENSING IT FOR WHILE...
THE REAR? WEREN'T THOSE SPECIAL ROOMED CARS AT THE VERY END OF THE TRAIN?
ANOTHER CAR WAS ATTACHED TO THE BACK OF THE TRAIN AT THE VILLAGE STATION AT NOON.

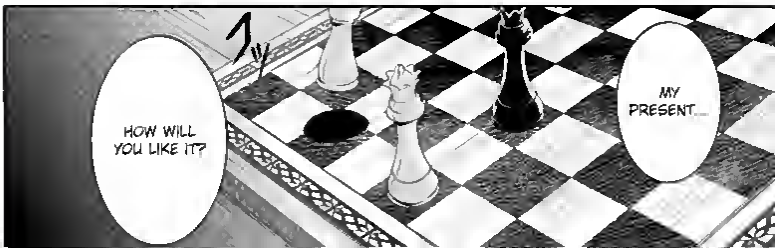
THEY'VE SHOWN THEM-SELVES!
NIKE!
I DID FIND IT STRANGE, BUT....
SFX ROOM

SFX: SSSSSSS
YOU OVERDID IT, NIKE!
I WAS GOING EASY, BUT...
IT'S REALLY BOTHERSOME IF WE INVOLVE INNOCENT PEOPLE
THERE ARE OTHER PASSENGERS SUPPRESS YOUR POWER.
Rolan...
Rolan Berge...
ARE THEY EVEN HUMAN...?
WHA-
IT APPEARS OUR OPPONENTS ARE STILL ALIVE
SFX TWITCH QUIVER

We're going to kill you!
SFX SLICE
SFX BIEEE—LEE DROP DROP
YUKI!!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, MY LORD?
WHAT IF ASSAS-SINS COME?
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE AFRAID WHO WERE THESE GUYS YOU BEHEADED?

SFX
©YAAAAA
KYA AA
WA- AA
DAMN IT!
ARE THEY ATTACKING THE PAS- SENGERS INDISCRIMI- NATELY?
THIS IS BAD IF IT'S LIKE THIS, WE CAN'T JUST RUN
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

NOW,



YOU SHOULD BE HAVING FUN RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
ROLAN-KUN.

SFX: RUSTLE
THIS PLAN IS WORSE THAN I THOUGHT. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU
HURRY UP AND COME, ROLAN!
NO— MAOU!

HMM? LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT THEM, THEN.
PLEASE, TAKE A LOOK. SOME OF THEM LOOK QUITE PROMISING.
HERE. SOME NEW POTENTIAL PROJECTS, MISS AIMER.
PROJECTS
I WANT MORE PROJECTS AND FASTER RELEASES!
AW CRAP, THE FANS ARE GOING TO BE PISSED.
OH WELL.
THOSE WERE REALLY GOOD!
YES, THEY WERE. BUT WE SIMPLY DONT HAVE THE STAFF FOR THEM.
AGAIN?!
toss
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR?!
WHAT?!?!
INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING ABOUT IT, THEY SHOULD VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT.
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT MORE STAFF. THESE PROJECTS DON'T CLEAN THEMSELVES YOU KNOW.
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